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PTO/SB/21 (6-97)  
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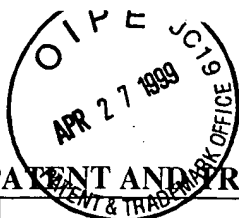
<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	08/938,173
	Filing Date	09/27/97 (parent)
	First Named Inventor	Brockhoff
	Group Art Unit	1723 (parent)
	Examiner Name	S. Kim (Parent)
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	1760

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
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<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Beck & Tysver, P.L.L.P.
Signature	<i>Stephanie J. Smith</i>
Date	4/22/99

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>Applicant:</b>			
<b>Serial No.:</b>	08/938,173	<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	1723 (parent)
<b>Filed:</b>	9/26/97 (parent)	<b>Examiner:</b>	S. Kim (Parent)
<b>Title:</b>	Method and Device for Removing Gas from Gas Containing Blood	<b>Attorney Docket No:</b>	1760

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Date of Deposit: 4/22/99

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

GROUP 1700

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application for patent as indicated below. It is noted that the Applicant filed a Continuing Prosecution Application on 4/14/99. Therefore this Amendment is timely submitted in the CPA without a request for extension of time.

In the Claims

Please add independent claims 18 and 19 as follows:

## 18. (New; independent)

A device for removing gas from gas containing blood, the device comprising:

- a) a non-rotating cyclone eddy chamber having an inlet thereto and an outlet therefrom, said chamber being shaped for passing gas-containing blood in the form of a cyclone eddy current for producing a centrifugal force that separates the blood into a blood phase in a radially outer cyclone eddy region and a gas phase in a radially inner cyclone eddy current region;
- b) the cyclone inlet comprising at least one helically circularly extending blood inlet channel, the blood inlet channel shaped for narrowing in funnel like manner, at least over part

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